

Holy Spirit will come upon all flesh. Study the imagery in this section.

5. Lastly read 3: 1-18. Note that you here have a picture of the judgment of the nations. Central verses of this thought are 12-16. Here you find the judgment set, multitudes, great wicked, marvels in sun, moon and stars, the Lord's road from Zion. In verse 18 we have a beautiful picture of restored Zion.

REMARKS

1. The above is by no means a full study of the imagery of Joel. It is at most only a very brief outline. Suggestive to the student.

2. Those who have written concerning this work will find their inquiries answered in these outlines. I should be glad to note any queries sent me upon Joel.

3. The next and last study will be the Theology of Joel.

J. ALLEN MILLER.

Hiram, O.

PRAYER MEETING TOPICS

J. L. GILLIN

CHARACTER STUDIES—JOSEPH. NO. 1

I. Biography.

a. Son of Jacob and Rachel. Gen. 30: 23, 24.

b. Jacob's favorite son. Gen. 37: 3-11. Result of favoritism. Gen. 37: 4.

c. A dreamer. Gen. 37: 5-11.

d. Sold into Egypt. Gen. 37: 13, 14, 18 20-28, 36.

e. Jacob deceived by his sons. Gen. 37: 31-33. 1. Did they get it honestly?

f. Joseph exalted by Potiphar. Gen. 39: 4.

g. Joseph's moral purity. Gen. 39: 9.

1. What is *your* estimate of his conduct?

h. The wickedness of the woman was over-ruled for Joseph's advancement and God's glory. Gen. 41: 39 44. Ps. 76: 10.

II. Life Lessons.

a. Favoritism in a family does not pay.

b. Envy leads to evil and self-punishment. Job. 5: 2. Prov. 14: 30.

c. Evil is over-ruled by God for His glory and man's good. 2 Cor. 13: 8. Ps. 10, 5: 14 33.

d. All things work good to God's children. Rom. 8: 28. 1 Pet. 3: 13.

e. All punishment in this world is redemptive. Jer. 2: 19.

f. God honors the pure and upright man. Ps. 37: 37.

SERMONS IN QUAIN TEXTS

Text:—He that saith, I know him and keepeth not his commandments is a liar. I John 2: 4.

That is rather plain speech, is it not? It comes very near calling a man a liar, but then why not call things by their right name? Who said this? It was John the beloved disciple. The disciple whom Jesus loved, who leaned on his bosom and who was known for his sweet, loving disposition. In studying the character of this sweet disciple one would think that he would not have been

capable of calling a man a liar. But note how John puts the case: Not if a man *claims* to know and love God, but if he *says* he knows him, and yet keeps not his commandments, that man is a liar. Of course he is, how could it be otherwise, for a man will never know God in the sense that the Christian knows him until he *does* keep his commandments. Hence to say that we know God when we do not keep his commandments, is to say what is absolutely false. Let no one imagine that because he is saved by the grace of God, that now he can sin with impunity because God is merciful and forgives so freely. The word plainly teaches that faith in Christ implies a complete surrender to him and obedience to his commandments. Faith without obedience is like faith without works, it is dead. On an old slab in the ancient cathedral of Lubbeck, Germany, is the following inscription:

Thus speaketh Christ our Lord to us:
Ye call me Master and obey me not;
Ye call me Light and see me not;
Ye call me Way and walk me not;
Ye call me Life and desire me not;
Ye call me Wise and follow me not;
Ye call me Fair and love me not;
Ye call me Rich and ask me not;
Ye call me Eternal and seek me not;
Ye call me Gracious and trust me not;
Ye call me Noble and serve me not;
Ye call me Mighty and honor me not;
If I condemn you blame me not.

Text:—God is light. I John 1: 5.

There are three things that make God exceedingly precious to us, three things that are greater than all others, things that everybody desires. They are these: God is love; God is life; God is light. Love, life, light. Who does not desire these? In all the world there is nothing that will make one so rich as these three. What is all your gold, your houses and lands, etc.? They will pass away, but the love, life and light of God will endure forever. On the above beautiful text J. R. Miller says: This was John's message. Light stands for everything that is beautiful and good. It is pure—God is holy. "In him is no darkness at all." Light is life giving. All the light in the world is wooed out and nourished by the sun. A friend asked Tennyson once, "What is Jesus Christ to you?" They were walking in the garden at the time, and pointing to a rose-bush, full of its blossoming roses, Tennyson said, "What the sun is to this bush, Jesus Christ is to me." As we open our heart and life to Christ, who is the revealing of the love of God, the life-giving influence spreads everywhere and we grow into whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are pure. Again, light reveals, makes manifest. In the darkness of the night we see nothing; but when the sun rises, all the beauty about us is manifested. A man sleeps on a mountain top, and all is blackness about him. The morning dawns, and the glorious splendors of nature burst on his view. One might walk thro a great art gallery at night and he

would not behold anything. At length however the day breaks, and he finds himself in the midst of the loveliest creations. They were there before, but were invisible to him until the light revealed them. So the light of God makes all lovely things visible to us.

Church News

Galesburg, Kans.

We have recently organized a Y. P. S. C. E. at the Pleasant View Brethren church with twenty members to begin with. Brother Ed. Clum is President and brother Harry Anderson Secretary. Our young brethren and sisters are very earnest and willing workers. They are taking right hold of the work and we believe they will make it a successful Endeavor.

Brother Hannan preached near Montana, Lakette county, about twenty miles from here, on Sunday, Nov. 14, and will preach there again Dec. 12. Dec. 18th he will go to Godfrey, near Fort Scott, by request of Brother Hixon, our district evangelist, to begin a protracted meeting. We will miss him very much while he is away, but our loss will be other's gain, for we know that he will do good wherever he goes. We are glad that he is so situated that he can go forth and preach the gospel in other congregations that he may enlarge his field of labor and become better known in the brotherhood. We shall keep up our Sabbath-school all winter, and perhaps hold another series of meetings before spring, as we believe there are some in the community who are under conviction and are about ready to give their hearts to God and unite with us if given an opportunity and urged to do so.

J. L. HAMILTON.

College Notes

For some time I have been watching the "Apportionment Plan" for raising the balance of the indebtedness of Ashland College. Having been intimately connected with the work, I think it was the best plan for the raising of said debt, with one exception, viz., "Your money is not to be paid until all others have paid their's" With this conditional clause inserted, I believe the work has been retarded. I have personal knowledge of individuals and churches who have withheld their money they pledged on these grounds.

I am glad however that this clause has been eliminated to a great extent and people are becoming interested in the payment of the "College debt."

I am made to wonder why some congregations will allow themselves to be solicited by two different solicitors and then wait for the A. U. F. Committee to send the third, a collector around, thereby causing extra expense and delay of settlement of the debt. With all the harsh sayings and reproach that have been thrust upon our worthy secretary, I am convinced that there could have been no other man in the church who would have gone thro with this work with more patience and